GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2039
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2000
KAIGA ATOMIC POWER PLANT
PUTTASWAMY GOWDA

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kaiga Atomic Power Plant which had attained criticality during August, 1999 is operating to its full capacity at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken special measures to avoid such criticality in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS & PUBLIC GRIEVANCES (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) Kaiga Atomic Power Project (Kaiga-1&2) has two units & of 220 MWe each. Kaiga-2 attained criticality on

(b) 24.09.1999 and was synchronised to the grid for the first time on 2.12.1999. Presently, the unit is operating at full capacity. Unit-I of Kaiga Atomic Power Project is expected to achieve criticality during the latter half of the year 2000.

(c) Sustained nuclear chain reaction is a first step in & the operation of nuclear power reactor, prior to

(d) power production. The process of reaching sustained nuclear chain reaction at low power is termed as `Attaining Criticality`. During the entire stage of power production, the reactor remains critical and power is raised to produce steam, which is used to run Turbo-generator to produce electricity.
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